Mountain Weather Forecast

Northwest Highlands

Including Sutherland, Ben Wyvis, Wester Ross, The Cuillin, Glen Affric, Glen Shiel and Knoydart
Forecast valid from 00:00 on Thursday 14 Dec 2023 until 23:59 on Friday 15 Dec 2023

Forecast Issued on Wednesday 13 Dec 2023 at 10:42 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: High for clearing to showers early Thursday, also for patchy rain from mid-Friday turning heavier for the weekend, but lowering for the detail of worst of conditions from weekend.

Headline for Thursday 14 Dec 2023: By day scattered showers and brighter spells with severe wind chill at height in strong to gale summit winds.

Mountain weather hazards on Thursday 14 Dec 2023

Blizzards
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow
No Likelihood

Storm force winds
No Likelihood

Gales
Low Likelihood

Severe chill effect
Medium Likelihood

Poor visibility
Low Likelihood

Thunderstorms
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
No Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Heavy snow	Light snow	Light snow showers (night)	Light snow showers	Sleet showers	Light snow showers	Light snow showers (night)	Light snow showers (night)
Precipitation probability							
90%	80%	40%	40%	30%	30%	30%	30%

Forecast for Thursday 14 Dec 2023

Weather: Periods of snow and rain at first overnight, heaviest in the west, clearing to showers before dawn. Brighter spells and showers through the day, with outbreaks mainly affecting western ranges. Snow level around 800m

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: By day 70% in west, 85% in east

Low cloud and visibility: Good becoming moderate or poor in rain or showers, very poor in snow and within cloud with bases lowering 500m at times, chiefly in the west as showers push through.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/specialist-forecasts/mountain
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Met Office Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Thursday 14 Dec 2023

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	51/64 S	36/46 SW	32/41 SW	33/43 SW	36/47 W	37/49 W	33/44 SW	30/41 W	31/42 SW
900	47/59 S	34/44 SW	31/40 SW	31/41 SW	34/45 W	35/47 W	31/43 SW	29/40 W	29/41 SW
600	33/45 S	22/32 SW	19/29 SW	20/30 SW	23/34 SW	24/36 W	21/33 SW	20/31 SW	19/31 SW
300	10/41 S	6/30 SW	5/26 W	6/28 W	8/32 W	9/33 W	8/31 W	7/27 SW	7/28 SW
Glen	18/37 S	11/26 SW	10/23 W	11/25 SW	12/27 SW	12/27 W	12/27 SW	12/25 SW	11/25 SW

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	-1/-11	1/-8	-0/-8	-0/-8	-0/-8	-0/-9	-0/-8	-0/-8	0/-8
900	-0/-10	1/-6	0/-7	0/-7	1/-7	0/-8	0/-7	1/-7	1/-6
600	2/-6	4/-2	3/-3	3/-3	3/-3	3/-4	3/-3	3/-3	3/-3
300	3/-0	5/4	4/2	5/2	5/3	5/2	5/2	5/2	5/2
Glen	6/2	9/6	8/5	8/5	8/5	8/4	8/5	8/5	8/5
Freezing Level*	1300m	1100m	1000m	1000m	1000m	1000m	1000m	1000m	1000m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View

Worst of the weather during the early hours of the morning, but still difficult conditions at height in west as summit gales bring snow showers and severe windchill.

Forecast for Friday 15 Dec 2023

Weather: Mainly dry start with some limited brighter spells. Cloud thickening and lowering to bring periods of light rain from late morning, most persistent in the west and during the afternoon, before turning increasingly patchy later in the day.

Maximum wind: West to southwest winds increasing mean 35-40mph from mid-afternoon with gusts reaching 60mph across most exposed ridges and summits.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 70% becoming 10% from mid-day

Low cloud and visibility: Good becoming moderate or poor in rain or showers, very poor within cloud with bases occasionally lowering 500m at first, becoming widespread from mid-day.

Temperature: **Glens:** Plus 2 Celsius increasing 9 Celsius for the afternoon
At 800m: Plus 1 Celsius increasing 4 Celsius by mid-afternoon
Freezing level: 1000m lifting 1600m

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